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ABSTRACT

Since the passage of U.S. Public Law 94-142, The Education for All Handicapped Children Act in 1975, special education has undergone much change. This law mandates that any child with disabilities must be educated to the maximum extent possible, with the least restrictive environment possible. This book serves as a resource for teachers dealing with the complexities of teaching and providing for children with special needs. Inclusion, the goal and method by which teachers create a classroom which values the special needs child, rests on a belief in human interconnectedness and the idea of the classroom as an open, safe, and yet challenging environment. The chapters are (1) "Stories from the Classroom," including the idea of difference, along with social skills; (2) "What Is Inclusion?"; (3) "Creating an Inclusive Learning Environment"; (4) "Managing the Environment"; (5) "Strategies for Teaching and Learning," focusing on collaborative learning, curriculum adaptation, and individual education programs; (6) "Raising Awareness: Preparing for Inclusion," including awareness meetings; and (7) "Supporting Inclusive Practice." Master sheets of forms and worksheets for duplication are included. (Contains 41 references.) (BGC)

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